

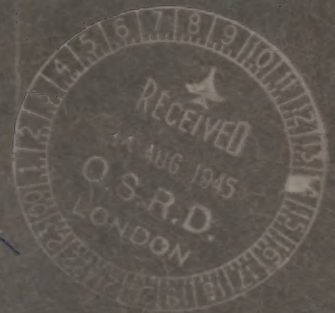
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MEDICAL TARGETS IN SOUTHERN GERMANY

18 to 28 May 1945

GROUP-4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
declassified after 12 years

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COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES
SUB-COMMITTEE

1. Pharmacology Department.

This department had an enrollment of 400 to 600 students per semester in normal times. The last instruction period ended about 1 March, 1945, but previous damage to the buildings and equipment prevented practical work from being carried out during the winter semester.

Prof. Walther Straub, former head of the department and the leading pharmacologist in Munich, died in October 1944 at the age of 70. He was succeeded by his chief assistant, Dr. A.W. Forst, who was interrogated together with his technical assistant, Fraulein Eugenie Driendl, and his instrument maker or laboratory mechanic, Karl Heuwing.

As regards Prof. Straub's later work, we could find only that he was interested in the use of copper sulphate for phosphorus burns, and narcotine as a substitute for codeine. It was stated that all this work had been published.

In addition to teaching, one of the chief functions of the department was the standardization of digitalis and strophantin preparations. This work was originally shared by Berlin, Leipzig, and Munich as the result of a government order issued in 1928. Recently, due to the overwork of Berlin and the bombing of Leipzig, this function fell entirely to Munich. Since the occupation, Munich has also ceased to perform this duty.

The methods used were the frog method (animals kept at a constant temperature) and the Knafl-Lenz method of infusion into guinea pigs, with constant observation of the electrocardiographic changes. The firms for which standardization was performed included Merck, Ysaufabrik in Wernigerode, Hageda in Berlin, etc. A small amount of private work had also been done for the Luitpoldwerk of Munich on the toxicity of syptics, one of which was an alcohol-ether extract of lung called Clauden (also used clinically by Prof. Dr. Stepp, see below).

Dr. Forst's private scientific interests revolved principally around the autonomic nervous system in relation to sleep, following largely on the ideas of Hess of Zurich. Dr. Forst stated that no work of military significance had been undertaken and that no new classes of synthetics had been studied.

The department has been largely wrecked; all that is left being the lecture theater (slightly damaged) and a practical chemical laboratory, at present without water or gas. The equipment for the testing of digitalis and strophantin had been evacuated to Tutzing, about 25 miles south west of Munich.

Dr. H.J. Staudinger (in Freiburg)

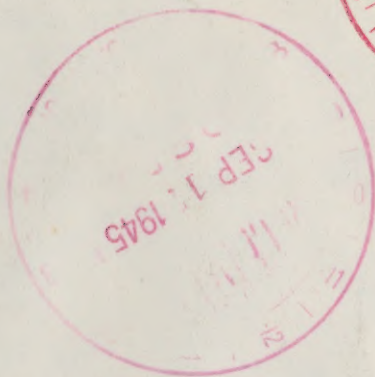
After the raid of 27/11/44 a part of the laboratory was left, but the chemical section was completely destroyed. Nevertheless, it had been possible to rescue most of the books and apparatus from the cellars, where they had been put for safety.

Reprints of the work of the department for 1943-44 were obtained in two volumes entitled respectively Arbeiten aus dem Ludwig Aschoff-Haus, 1943-44, and Arbeiten aus dem Institut für Luftfahrt-medizinische Pathologie des Reichsluftfahrtministeriums, Freiburg i. Br., 1943-44.

The subjects treated under these headings overlap considerably. The articles which Dr. Büchner considered as presenting the best summaries of his general teachings were (No. 2 in the Ludwig Aschoff-Haus volume), namely, "Die pathogenetische Bedeutung des allgemeinen Sauerstoffmangels," which is still in press and No. 11, in the same volume, namely: Beitrag zum Problem der Chemorezeptoren." Both these articles also appear in the second volume so that it looks as if the Air Ministry Section might have been a means of retaining assistants.

During the interrogation of Professor Büchner he informed us that Professor Dr. S. Janssen, Professor of Pharmacology, Freiburg, Sonnenhalde 14, had continued his work on the various fractions of the pituitary, but had had very few assistants during the war and had done no pharmacological work for the German Government. Therefore, in view of the short time available, he was not interrogated.

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War Dept., Combined Intelligence Objectives
Subcomm. Report #62

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